

APR 27 1977



American Chemical Society

COMMITTEE ON CHEMISTRY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1155 SIXTEENTH STREET NW WASHINGTON DC 20036 REpublic 7-3337 ac 202

CHEMISTRY IN MEDICINE STUDY
DR. MARSHALL D. GATES, *Chairman*

Please reply to: University of Rochester
Department of Chemistry
Rochester, New York 14627

Dr. Joshua S. Lederberg
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

The Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs of the ACS whose chairman is Frank Long, has established an ad hoc subcommittee, the Committee on Chemistry in Medicine, whose charge is to examine and assess the role of chemistry in medicine in the past, in the present, and to the extent now foreseeable, in the future. I have been asked to chair this committee.

The purpose of this study is not only to assess and delineate the past, current and future role of chemistry in medicine, but to do so in a way which will indicate clearly to those in a position to influence policy on and funding of research the importance of chemistry to health-related problems.

Thus our report should be directed not only toward scientists and those in the medical profession but also toward informed laymen, and should not be too long, perhaps 50 pages.

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We have drawn up a list of topics we thought should be covered (when our outline is a bit more firmly established we should be glad to send you a copy) and have included in it as a current example, a treatment of therapeutic strategies based on gene correction and have also considered as a possible topic for future example, the very closely related subject hereditary diseases and eugenics. Possibly these two subjects could be combined into a treatment of current possibilities and prospects for future advances.

This lengthy explanation is of course a prelude to a request that you undertake the preparation of a brief summary of this subject for our report. Something of the order of 1,000 words or their equivalent would be appropriate, although this figure should be regarded as approximate and flexible, and as I've mentioned, the treatment should be understandable to an informed layman.

FRANKLIN A. LONG, *Chairman*; WILLIAM O. BAKER, ROBERT W. CAIRNS, THEODORE L. CAIRNS, THOMAS P. CARNEY, HERBERT E. CARTER, LLOYD M. COOKE, JAMES D. D'IANI, GEORGE B. HAMMOND, MILTON HARRIS (ex officio), WILLIAM F. KIEFFER, CHARLES G. OVERBERGER, CHARLES C. PRICE, GLENN T. SEABORG, ROBERT W. VAN DOLAH, RICHARD A. CARPENTER AND GEORGE B. KISTIAKOWSKY, *Consultants*. STEPHEN T. QUIGLEY, *Staff Director*.

Dr. Joshua S. Lederberg

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April 22, 1971

I do hope we can convince you that the relatively small effort this would involve will be worthwhile, and that accordingly you will accept the obligation of helping us. May I add my own personal plea that you say yes, since I am strongly convinced that our study needs the help of such outstanding contributors as you.

With kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marshall Gates". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marshall Gates

MG:ahh